MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

FARM ADVISER

News Notes from the Field of the Extension Service, Released for Publication Every Two Weeks From the Office of the Director of Extension.

Vol. 2. College Park, Maryland, January 24, 1916. No. 7

PUBLISHED EVERY TWO WEEKS BY
The Maryland Agricultural College
COLLEGE PARK, MARYLAND

Entered as second-class matter February 5, 1915, at the post-office at College Park, Maryland, under the Act of August 24, 1912.

NOTICE

The purpose of the Farm Adviser is to furnish a convenient and timely medium for supplying news notes regarding the work of the Agricultural College, Experiment Station, and Extension Service, in co-operation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture to the local press and to county demonstration agents with a view to keeping them and the people throughout the State informed of the activities of these agricultural agencies in their behalf. All requests for copies of this sheet should be directed to Reuben Brigham, In Charge of Publications, The Extension Service, College Park, Maryland.

COUNTY DEMONSTRATION AGENT HOLD THEIR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

College Park, Md., Jan. 22.

The annual conference of County Demonstration Agents in Maryland. which has been in session at the Agricultural College during the week came to a successful close at noon today. The main feature of the conference was the outlining of his plans for 1916 by each agent in the various activities in which the Co-operative Extension Service of the Agricultural College and Department of Agriculture is interested. These plans were informally discussed by the specialists at the College and the county agents, with a view to developing the most efficient team work in the service possible.

The conference was opened on Monday, January 17, when President H. J. Patterson, Director T. B. Symons, District Agent Jesse M. Jones, State Agent G. H. Alford and others, addressed the agents. The afternoon was devoted to the discussion of the annual reports of the county agents for 1915, it being followed by a night session open to the general public. The feature of this session was an address by Dr. Bradford Knapp of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, on "How the Country Community Can Help Itself," which struck the keynote of our greatest need in this state,—the organization of the country neighborhood into a community club or grange, the purpose of which should be to increase the social attractions of the neighborhood, educate the members in improved methods of production, and by united efforts in raising their standards of production and living, make their neighborhood essentially a desirable place in which to live. "No work," he asserted, "is of more value to the farmer and the farm woman than that which places them in a position to help themselves to the things that promote their prosperity and happiness and that of their children. This can best be accomplished through the community organization and the awakening of the community consciousness. That county agent is the most successful who develops to the highest degree the ability among his people to organize for their mutual advancement financially, educationally, and socially, and renders their surroundings attractive to their boys and girls. Through community organization, also, our service to the people is made many times more effective since it increases the number we can reach personally, and in addition, affords them an opportunity for educating themselves to make the most use of the opportunities we offer."

The county agents will continue their work in connection with farm crops under the direction of Nicholas Schmitz, who has co-operated with them in demonstrations in improved varieties of wheat, the growing of alfalfa, testing corn varieties, top dressing grass land, growing winter oats, soy beans, and Sudan grass, the results of which have done much to make the excellent record of County Agents during the past year possible.

Wednesday morning the problems of livestock and dairying in the counties were discussed, a considerable increase in the building of silos, the introduction of pure-bred stock, and the forming of breeders' and cow-testing associations being reported. G. E. Wolcott, extension specialist in dairying, has carried on a large part of his work during the past year in co-operation with the agents who have found that the improvement of dairy methods tended to strengthen both their work and the production of their counties.

The afternoon was devoted to the important subject of organization and co-operation with the rural schools. A considerable number of farmers' clubs, granges, and community welfare associations was reported, although this phase of the activities of the County Agents has not as yet developed as it is hoped it will. Especial interest was shown in the plans that are being laid for the organization of local or neighborhood boys' agricultural clubs as a part of the State Boys' Corn and Potato Club movement. A number of these boys' clubs will be organized in every county as a nucleus for adult organization and to vitalize the teaching of our rural schools. Following the discussion of this work by the County Agents and C. S. Richardson, J. E. Metzger and E. A. Miller, specialists in rural education, F. B. Bomberger presented a strong argument for the formation by County Agents of live community and county organizations as an invaluable aid to their work.

Thursday was Boys' Agricultural Club Day, in charge of Reuben Brig-

ham, assistant State Agent. A feature of the program was the vigorous address on Boys' Agricultural Clubs by I. W. Hill, in charge of the Boys' Club Work in the Division of the South of the State Relations Service, Department of Agriculture. He showed most clearly the effect of club work in making country pursuits attractive to the average boy, and how it vitalized the work of the rural schools and developed the type of rural leaders that the country so often lacks. In addition to the County Agents a number of agricultural teachers and school superintendents were an interested part of the conference group, as this work is being carried on in co-operation with the schools and is the connecting link between the Farm Demonstration Work and the boys and girls of our rural districts. Another feature of the day was the plan presented to the conference by Mr. H. E. Warner, representing the Baltimore Sun, for a Home State Tour for the prize winners in the club contests of the State during Maryland Week in the fall of 1916. This proposition was received with much enthusiasm by the Agents, and will go a long way toward arousing a more general knowledge of club work in Maryland.

The program on Friday, January 21, was largely devoted to plans for demonstrations in farm management, under the supervision of W. T. L. Taliaferro, farm accounts, under H. T. Harrison, and a discussion of the importance of drainage demonstrations and other rural engineering projects. In the afternoon the fertilizer situation in the State was vigorously discussed by the Agents and the College specialists, H. J. Patterson and H. B. McDonnell, the difficulty of securing potash for fertilizers being of especial importance. The program was concluded by a discussion of how the county agent can best promote the introduction of home conveniences and equipment in the farm home, the Home Economics Division of the College being represented by Miss Florence Hunt.

The conference concluded with a morning session on Saturday, January 22, when the county agents discussed the problems of marketing and transportation which are daily becoming more and more vital in the development of their work. An important feature of the conference was the formation of a County Agents' Association of Maryland.

TWO WEEK' COURSE IN FRUIT AND TRUCK GROWING, INSECT PESTS, PLANT DISEASES, MARKETING, PACKING, Etc.

College Park, Md., January 22.

Beginning Monday. January 24, there will be a two-weeks' demonstration course of which the following is a program:

Monday, January 24th.

P. M.
1:00- 2:00—Lecture—"General Principles of Fruit Growing" .....S. B. Shaw
2:00- 3:00—Lecture—"Principles of Health and Disease in Plants," J. B. S. Norton
3:00- 4:00—Lecture—"Injurious and Beneficial Insects and Their Relation to Horticulture".T. B. Symons

Tuesday, January 25th.

A. M.
9:00-10:00—Lecture—"Apple Soils and Varieties for Maryland"..C. P. Close
10:00-11:00—Lecture—"Location, Preparation and Planting of the Orchard," S. B. Shaw
11:00-12:00—Lecture—"Propagation of Fruit and the Selection of Nursery Stock" ...H. Beckenstrater

P. M.
1:00- 4:00—Demonstrations:—
1. Budding and Grafting.
2. Top Working Fruit Trees.
3. "Heeling in" Nursery Stock.
4. Planting Trees.
H. Beckenstrater

Wednesday, January 26th.

A. M.
9:00-10:00—Lecture—"Peach Soils and Varieties for Maryland"...C. P. Close
10:00-11:00—Lecture—"The Control of Insects Affecting the Apple," T. B. Symons
11:00-12:00—Lecture—"The Control of Diseases Affecting the Apple," C. E. Temple

P. M.
1:00- 2:00—Lecture—"Cultivation and Fertilization of the Orchard".S. B. Shaw
2:00- 3:00—Lecture—"Summer and Winter Legumes in the Orchard," N. Schmitz
3:00- 4:00—Lecture—"Pear Culture," W. R. Ballard

Thursday, January 27th.

A. M.
9:00-10:00—Lecture—"Lime and its Application to Horticulture"..F. P. Veitch
10:00-11:00—Lecture—"Pollination of Fruit Trees," F. S. Holmes
11:00-12:00—Lecture—"Problems in Pruning Fruit Trees,"...H. Beckenstrater

P. M.
1:00- 4:00—Demonstration:—
1. Pruning Fruit Trees, H. Beckenstrater

Friday, January 28th.

A. M.
9:00-10:00—Lecture—"The Control of Insects Affecting the Peach," T. B. Symons
10:00-11:00—Lecture—"The Control of Diseases Affecting the Peach," C. E. Temple
11:00-12:00—Lecture—"Principles and Practices in Insect Control"..E. N. Cory

P. M.
1:00 -4:00—Demonstrations:—
1. Making Insecticides, E. N. Cory J. R. Christie
2. Equipment for Insect Control.....E. N. Cory J. R. Christie
3. Making Fungicides, C. E. Temple
4. Use of Dynamite, E. H. Brinkley

Saturday, January 29th.

A. M.
9:00-10:00—Lecture—"Harvesting Fruit," S. B. Shaw
10:00-11:00—Demonstration:—
1. Packing Apples, S. B. Shaw

Monday, January 31st.

A. M.
9:00-10:00—Lecture—"Nut Culture in Maryland," C. P. Close
10:00-11:00—Lecture—"Small Fruits and Grapes," W. R. Ballard
11:00-12:00—Lecture—"The Control of Diseases Affecting Small Fruits Grapes.....C. E. Temp

P. M.
1:00- 4:00—Demonstrations:—
1. Propagation of Small Fruits and Grapes.
2. Planting of Small Fruits and Grapes.
3. Pruning Small Fruits and Grapes....W. R. Ballard

Tuesday, February 1st.

A. M.
9:00-10:00—Lecture—"General Principles of Market Gardening and Truck Growing"....E. F. Stoddard
10:00-11:00—Lecture—"The Control of Insects Affecting Truck Crops," T. B. Symons
11:00-12:00—Lecture—"The Control of Diseases Affecting Truck Crops," C. E. Temple

P. M.
1:00- 2:00—Lecture—"Selection and Purchase of Seed".....C. P. Smith
2:00- 4:00—Demonstrations:—
1. Analysis of Seed
2. Germination Tests, C. P. Smith

Wednesday, February 2d.

A. M.
9:00-10:00—Lecture—"Fertilizers; Their Mixing and Use"...H. J. Patterson
10:00-11:00—Lecture—"Construction and Management of Hotbeds and Cold Frames".....T. H. White
11:00-12:00—Demonstration:—
1. Making and Handling Hotbeds and Cold Frames.....T. H. White

P. M.
1:00- 4:00—Demonstrations:—
1. Construction and Filling of "Flats"
2. Seed Sowing
3. Transplanting
4. Potting
5. Permanent Setting of Plants...E. F. Stoddard

Thursday, February 3rd.

A. M.
9:00-10:00—Lecture—"Irish Potato Culture," T. H. W[illegible]
10:00-11:00—Lecture—"Sweet Potato Culture," H. C. Thompson
11:00-12:00—Lecture—"Farm Machinery for Orcharding and Trucking," W. T. L. Taliaferro

P. M.
1:00- 2:00—Lecture—"Market Gardening Implements".....E. F. Stoddard
2:00- 4:00—Demonstration:—
1. Use and Care of Market Gardening Implements, E. F. Stoddard

Friday, February 4th.

A. M.
9:00-10:00—Lecture—"Beautifying the Home Grounds".....B. W. Anspon
10:00-11:00—Lecture—"The Home Vegetable Garden".....E. F. Stoddard
11:00-12:00—Lecture—"Home Flower Gardening," B. W. Anspon

P. M.
1:00- 2:00—Lecture—"Window Gardening," B. W. Anspon
2:00- 4:00—Demonstrations:—
1. Landscape Gardening,
2. Amateur Floriculture, B. W. A

Saturday, February 5th.

A. M.
9:00-10:00—Lecture—"Grading, Packi[illegible] keting Fruit C[illegible]
10:00-11:00—Lecture—"Grading, Packin[illegible] keting Truck Cr[illegible] E.
11:00-12:00—Address—"Extension Work[illegible] to Horticulture," T. B.